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31. (NEW) Apparatus according to claim 29 wherein the perfecter rotates about in a first direction when removing the sheet from the preceding roller and rotates in an opposite direction when it passes off the sheet to a following roller.

32 (NEW) Apparatus according to claim 30 wherein the element rotates about in a first direction when removing the sheet from the preceding roller and rotates in an opposite direction when it passes off the sheet to a following roller.

REMARKS

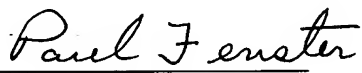
The present application is a U.S. national application of PCT/IL00/00081. The present amendments, based on the attached to the IPER, have been made to place the application in proper US form. New claims 29-32 have been added to better define the invention. New claim 29 is identical to originally filed claim 1 (in the publication). The application contains claims 1-32.

Applicants note that the claims were indicated as meeting the criteria of PCT Article 33(2)-33(4) in the IPER issued by the European Patent Office (acting as IPEA).

A marked-up version of the claims that are amended is attached hereto.

An action on the merits is respectfully awaited.

Respectfully submitted,
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Marked-Up Amended Claims

3. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 1 [or claim 2] wherein the perfector comprises a first array of suction cups that grips the sheet adjacent the leading edge and a second array of suction cups that grips the sheet adjacent the trailing edge.

5. (Amended) Apparatus according to claim 3 [or claim 4] wherein the perfector comprises a shaft to which the arrays of suction cups are mounted.

14. (Amended) Apparatus according to [any of claims 1-13] claim 1 wherein the perfector comprises at least one sheet support surface on which the sheet lies when it is held by the perfector.

16. (Amended) Apparatus according to [any of the preceding claims] claim 1 wherein the perfector rotates in a first direction when removing the sheet from a preceding roller and rotates in an opposite direction when it passes off the sheet to a following roller.

20. (Amended) A sheet transport system according to [any of claims 17-19] claim 17 and comprising a fan that creates airflow that presses a sheet placed on the conveyor belt to the conveyor belt surface.

21. (Amended) A sheet transport system according to [any of claims 17-20] claim 17 wherein the perfector rotates in a first direction when removing the sheet from a preceding roller and rotates in an opposite direction when it passes of the sheet to a following transport element.

28. (Amended) Apparatus according to [any of claims 22-27] claim 22 wherein at least one of the inner and outer races are seal to the shaft or housing by an o-ring seal.